



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Atty. Dkt. No. 5589-02306

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below:

3/28/03 Date Pamela Gerik

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);

☐ within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;

☒ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or

☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus: ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or ☐ a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.

c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified:

☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:

☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or

☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or

☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or

☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and/or

☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:

5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:

6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.

7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.

8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5589-02306.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 3/28/03

Office  
MAR 31 2003  
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<b>Form PTO-1449</b> (modified) List of Patents and Publications For Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DKT. NO. 5589-02306  APPLICANT: Levy et al.  FILING DATE: September 20, 2001	SERIAL NO. 09/957,450  GROUP: 2812
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	D1	4631416	12/1986	Trutna, Jr.			
	D2	5114235	5/1992	Suda et al.			
	D3	5182455	1/1993	Muraki			
	D4	5182610	1/1993	Shibata			
	D5	5189494	2/1993	Muraki			
	D6	5316984	5/1994	Leourx			
	D7	5327221	7/1994	Saitoh et al.			
	D8	5340992	8/1994	Matsugu et al.			
	D9	5414514	5/1995	Smith et al.			
	D10	5666196	9/1997	Ishii et al.			
	D11	5783342	7/1998	Yamashita et al.			
	D12	5801390	9/1998	Shiraishi			
	D13	6046094	4/2000	Jost et al.			
	D14	6077756	6/2000	Lin et al.			
	D15	6079256	6/2000	Bareket			
	D16	6128089	10/2000	Ausschnitt et al.			
	D17	6153886	11/2000	Hagiwara et al.			
	D18	6177330	1/2001	Yasuda			
	D19	6255189	7/2001	Muller et al.			
	D20	6301011	10/2001	Fung et al.			
	D21	6388253	5/2002	Su			
	D22	6421124	7/2002	Matsumoto et al.			
	D23	6462818	10/2002	Bareket			
	D24	6476920	11/2002	Scheiner et al.			
	D25	6486492	11/2002	Su			
	D26	6486954	11/2002	Mieher et al.			
	D27	2002/0018217	2/2002	Weber-Grabau et al.			

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.

